



FIRST THINGS FIRST

**Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council
April 20, 2015**

Welcome, Introductions, and Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First – Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council was held on April 20, 2015 in the Early Literacy Room at the Safford Public Library, 808 South Seventh Avenue, Safford, Arizona 85546.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call and Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Regional Council Members present in person:

Chair Laurie Smith, Vice Chair JoAnn Morales, Donna McGaughey, Susan Norton, Kasey Ekman, Christie Rivera, Pam Patt, Stacy Morris, and Ryan Henry

Regional Council Members Absent:

None

Chair Smith asked the Council members if there were conflicts of interest regarding items on this agenda.

Member Rivera declared a conflict of interest with agenda item #5 (Proposed Change to SFY16 Funding Plan), due to agency conflict with Quality First and REWARD\$. Member Rivera recused herself from the discussions.

Member Ekman declared a conflict of interest with agenda item #5 (Proposed Change to SFY16 Funding Plan), due to agency conflict with Reach Out and Read. Member Ekman recused herself from the discussions.

Call to the Public

Chair Smith announced Call to the Public. There was no response.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 09, 2015 Regular Meeting was made by Member Patt, seconded by Member Morris. Motion carried (9-0-0).

Proposed Change to SFY16 Funding Plan

Graham/Greenlee Regional Director Shari Elkins shared with the council that funding from The Graham County United would be used to fund the Quality First Scholarships for one of our enrolled Quality First Centers. She explained that this would allow those funds originally allocated for scholarships to be used to fund strategies that had reduced funding due to the new fiscal policy. Director Elkins shared a proposed change to the SFY16 Funding Plan that would allow for the continued funding and increased funding levels of REWARD\$, Reach Out and Read, Community Awareness and Media.

A motion to approve the proposed change to the SFY16 Funding Plan was made by Vice Chair Morales, seconded by Member Henry. Motion carried (7-0-2). Members Rivera and Ekman abstained from the vote due to their conflict of interests stated in agenda item #2.

Department of Children Safety (DCS) Presentation

This item was tabled.

Community Outreach Update

Paulette LeBlanc, Outreach Coordinator, reported on her activities from March, highlighting the Home Visitation Coalition, Community Baby Shower and the Graham/Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition meetings and events.

Regional Director's Report

Director Elkins shared her April Director's Report highlighting the upcoming Early Childhood Summit 2015. She asked for feedback regarding the amount of information she shares with the council concerning the data reports and asked for feedback on data indicators in regards to the Needs and Assets Report.

Proposed Governmental Grant Agreements

This item was tabled.

Recommendation on Request for Grant Application (RFGA) Awards

Member Henry moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. section 38.431.03(A) (2) to discuss agenda item #10, Recommendations on Request for Grant Application Awards, with a second by Vice Chair Morales. Motion carried (9-0-0).

Chair Smith reminded the Council and the public that only those non-Council members reasonably necessary to the Executive Session discussion may attend an Executive Session. Therefore, we must ask that all others please leave the room at this time. Please take all of your materials, including your bags. After the Executive Session has concluded, staff will invite the public back into the room.

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Council entered into Executive Session at approximately 1:50 p.m.

In Addition, Chair Smith reminded all Council members and anyone else attending the Executive Session that discussions made in Executive Session, as well as the minutes, must be kept confidential pursuant to A.R.S. section 38-431-03 (B) except in some very limited circumstances, such as from members of the Council or from the Attorney General or County Attorney when investigating alleged Open Meeting Law violations.

The Graham/Greenlee Regional Council Regular Meeting resumed at approximately 2:10 p.m.

Member Henry moved to approve the Request for Grant Application award recommendations of the Review Committee as discussed in Executive Session and to forward the award recommendations to the Board, with a second by Member McGaughy. Motion carried (9-0-0).

Regional Council Member Announcements

- Member McGaughey shared information on the early childhood sessions of the upcoming Southeastern Arizona Teacher’s Academy Conference that will take place the first week of June.
- Member Henry shared news that he has taken a position with FMI in their Phoenix office and would be leaving the council the end of May.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on May 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the Safford Library.

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:24 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

**Shari Elkins,
Graham/Greenlee Regional Director**

Approved:

**Laurie Smith,
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council Chair**



May 2015 Director's Report

Graham/Greenlee

Regional Partnership Council

General Updates

Foster Care in Arizona.....



Answer: c.

Foster care is the temporary placement of a child with relatives approved by the Department or with foster parents who have been licensed by the Arizona Department of Child Safety, Office of Licensing and Regulation (OLR) and who are not the child's parents or legal guardian. Placement in foster care may be necessary to provide a safe home for a child during or after the investigation of neglect or abuse. A child may be in foster care for a day, a week, a month or longer.



The First Things First Early Childhood Summit brings together early childhood professionals, stakeholders and supporters to learn share and grow. Ensuring that our youngest kids arrive at kindergarten prepared to succeed requires all parts of the early childhood system to work together, and the Summit offers an exciting opportunity to build the knowledge and relationships critical to our collective success. Make plans to join us in Phoenix in August.



Early Childhood Coalition

The next meeting for the Early Childhood Coalition

will take place during

SEATA :

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

8:30 – 10:00

Eastern Arizona College

Home Visitation Coalition

The next meeting for the Graham/Greenlee Home Visitation Coalition will be:

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

1:00 – 2:30

General Services Building

Upcoming Event

Building Strong Families!

May 30th, 2015

Home Depot Parking Lot

8:00 to 11:00

Strategy Updates and Quarter 2 Data Report

Strategy	FY2015 Allotted	FY2015 Target Service Units	End of Quarter 2 Actual Service Units	FY2015 Performance/Financial Updates and Significant Milestones
Home Visitation	\$120,000	20 Families	15 Families 36 Children	Grantee served 75% of their TSU's. They expended 45% of their award.
Parent Outreach & Awareness	\$110,000	300 Workshops 24,000 books	290 Workshops 13,133 Books	Grantee reached 97% of their TSU's through workshops and 55% through their book club, expending 46% of their award.
Food Security	\$10,000	750 Food Boxes	586 Food Boxes	Grantee distributed food boxes to 930 young children, 78% of their TSU's. They expended 94% of their award.
Quality First Scholarships	\$94,000	79 Children	71 Children	Grantee distributed child care scholarships to 71 children, 90% of their TSU's.
Reach Out and Read	\$5,000	1,750 Books	804 Books	Grantee reached 46% of their TSU's, expending 81% of their award.
Oral Health	\$80,000	500 Screenings 450 Varnishes	231 Screenings 188 Varnishes	Grantee reached 46% of their TSU's in screenings and 42% in varnishes. They expended 16% of their award.
REWARD\$	\$45,000	30 Scholars	12 Scholars	Grantee distributed scholarships to 12 scholars, 36% of their TSU's, expending 40% of their award.

Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Timeline 2015

Month	Tasks
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (January 12th) • Funding Plan Summary and Presentation to State Board • Grantee Data Reports – 1st Quarter Data
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (February 9th)
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (March 9th) • Grantee Data Reports – 2nd Quarter Data
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (April 20th) • RFGA Approval
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (May 11th) • RFGA/Grant Agreement Approvals • Chair/Vice Chair Elections • Grantee Data Reports – 3rd Quarter Data
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (June 10th)
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (July 8th)
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (August 12th) • FY15 Grantee Reports • Grantee Data Reports – 4th Quarter Data • Early Childhood Summit (August 24th & 25th)
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (September 7th) • Grantee Orientation
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (October 19th) • SFY2017 Regional Allocations Announced by State Board • SFY2017 Funding Plan Discussions
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (November 9th) • Approval of Strategies, Allocations & TSU's for FY17
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (December 7th)



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGION COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES April 2015

Highlighted sections are facilitated by FTF Supporters or Champions.

Date	Description	# of Partic.	Comments
April 1	Presented at EAC Nurses' Professionalism Conference.	141	This was a wonderful opportunity to spread the word among the healthcare audience. I was one of 4 presenters focusing on services available in the region. I spoke of the Parent Kit, Helpline, Imagination Library, Reach Out and Read. Focused heavily on literacy and shared talking points. Thank you, Carolyn McCormies!!!
April 2	Published article in Graham County Schools Newsletter, <i>FTF Celebrates National Week of the Young Child.</i>		This is a wonderful monthly venue. Thank you, Donna!
April 8	I continue to work on the planning committee for South East AZ Teachers' Academy (SEATA).		It is a pleasure to be working on the development of the early childhood strand for SEATA. This allows me to combine my responsibilities to FTF and to the Graham and Greenlee County Schools.
April 8	Published Letter to the Editor in the <i>Courier</i> ; <i>FTF Celebrates National Week of the Young Child.</i>		This letter was submitted in the name of our FTF Council Chair. Thanks, Laurie.
April 9	Presented to Cochise County attendees at their Child Abuse Prevention Conference	36	I was recruited by Angela Mussi, FTF Community Outreach Director, to present in her absence. I offered the Basic FTF training to attendees. Cochise FTF Regional Director, Melissa Avant, did a follow up to my presentation.
April 15	Attended the G/G Home Visitation Coalition Meeting.	12	I took this opportunity to encourage attendance at SEATA. Distributed the list of breakout sessions in the early childhood strand, with registration instructions.
April 15	Phone conversation with Angela Mussi.		Angela reviewed information from the monthly FTF meeting in Phoenix. We also debriefed from my Cochise County presentation.
April 16	Attended the Graham County Community Networking Team meeting.	13	I offered a brief description of FTF and its grantee programs. Also spoke of SEATA and the May 30 th Family Event hosted by Strong Families.
April 20	Attended FTF Regional Council meeting.		Spoke of March activities, specifically the Community Baby Shower and the work of our Champion, Louise Welker.

April 21	Accompanied Louise Welker to Mt Graham High School to interview students for stories.	1	2 of 3 young mothers were absent, but Louise had the opportunity to interview a student. She will publish her first story for FTF within the month. I took the time to meet with Billie Huff, Director, to chat about Quality First, etc.
April 22	Met with Irma Cortez, Head Start Director in Pima. (Also delivered copies of <i>Your Child at 5</i> to Pima Elementary School for distribution at kindergarten roundup.)	1	I reviewed the resource guide of grantee services with Irma. Also shared information about SEATA, breakout sessions, and registration information. Irma has invited me to speak to her parent group in the fall.
April 28	Attended the Greenlee County Networking Team Meeting.	7	Spoke briefly of FTF and the services it funds. Also, spoke of the Strong Families Family event scheduled for May 30 th .
Total		211	

Cumulative Report (July 2014 – April 2015):

Earned Media: 18 - *Countdown to Kindergarten Series in the Courier and Copper Era (7); Like All Skills, Gratitude is Best Learned Young (1); Simple Toys (2); Holiday Traditions (2); Holiday Blues (2); Poor Oral Health...(1); Babies and Toddlers Need More Reading Time (2); FTF Celebrates National Week of the Young Child (1)*

Newsletter Articles: 13 – *Seize the Summer (kindergarten prep); Tips for Easing Kindergarten Jitters; Save the Date (Coalition); Childhood Obesity; Halloween: The Day After (2); Gratitude; Holiday Blues (2); Hobbies (2); Poor Oral Health..; FTF Celebrates National Week of the Young Child*

Stories: 1 – *A Family Affair*

40 presentations/events to 639 people

Site Visits: 3 – Morenci Early Childhood Center, Mt Graham Child Care Center, Bulldog Boulevard Preschool

For RPC: You are invited to attend any or all of the Early Childhood sessions at SEATA (June 1-4).

To Register:

Go to **graham.az.gov**

In the top bar, click on **Departments.**

Scroll down and click on **School Superintendent.**

In the lower right box, click on **WORKSHOP.**

Then, click on **For More Information and Registration.**

Scroll down to **fill in your registration information.**

Click, **SUBMIT.**

You will receive an email confirming receipt of your registration.

In May you will receive a full description of ALL breakout sessions. Choose the ones of interest and sign up on EventBrite.